The decision in respect of privatisation of distribution systems has to be taken by the appropriate agencies in the states. Government of Orissa have recently privatised distribution sector in the State. The other states which have initiated reforms in the distribution sector include Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. With the establishment of Regulatory Commissions in many States and the decision to unbundled SEBs, private investments in transmission and distribution are expected to accelerate.

(c) Several factors contributed to the grid collapse in the Northern Region, which occurred on 2nd January, 2001. One Pole of Rihand-Dadri HVDC line was out of service from 14th December, 2000 due to multiple failure of converter transformers. This had restricted the transmission capability between the eastern part, where all pit-head generation is located and western part of the Northern Region, where major load centres are located. On the night of 1st/2nd January, 2001, a number of 220 KV and 400 KV lines of the U.P. transmission system tripped and this imposed a severe strain on the transmission system. The transmission capability which had been impaired due to reduced capability of the Rihand-Dadri HVDC line got further eroded due to tripping of major high voltage transmission lines in UP system and this triggered grid separation and collapse.

**Review Committee On Tehri Dam**

1273. SHRI S.S.AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister has ordered, in the wake of the recent earthquake epicentred in the Kutch region, for conducting review of the Tehri Dam;

(b) if so, the details of the Review Committee along with its terms of reference; and

(c) what is the time-frame, if any, for the proposed review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) There is no rethinking on proceeding with the construction of Tehri Dam in the wake of recent unprecedented earthquakes in Gujarat as the same is designed for the Maximum Credible Earthquake (MCE) for the region/in its vicinity.